

Massachusetts Water Resources Commission

Meeting Minutes for October 10, 1996

Commission Members in Attendance:

Marilyn Contreas	Designee, EOCD Secretary
Peter Webber	Commissioner, Department of Environmental Management
Richard Thibedeau	Designee, Department of Environmental Management
Arleen O'Donnell	Designee, Department of Environmental Protection
Mark Tisa	Designee, Department of Fisheries, Wildlife and Environmental Law Enforcement
Joseph McGinn	Designee, Metropolitan District Commission
Gary Clayton	Public Member
Francis Veale	Public Member
Bob Zimmerman	Public Member
Jane Mead	Designee, CZM

Others in Attendance:

Bob Hartzel	DEM
Mike Gildesgame	DEM
Michelle Drury	DEM
Leldon Langley	DEP
Steve Asen	DEM
John McNabb	Town of Cohasset
Lou Wagner	Massachusetts Audubon Society
Jay Billings	Geologic Services Corporation
John Walden	Town of Westboro, DPW
John Kennelly	Army Corps of Engineers
Jeff Hanson	Bluestone Energy Services

Agenda Item #1: Adoption of minutes of September 12, 1996 meeting

A motion was made by McGinn and seconded by Clayton to

ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF October 12, 1996.

The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #2: Staff Report - Brockton water supply options

Thibedeau gave an update on DEM and DEP efforts to assist the Town of Brockton with a short term strategy to meet its water needs. Last November, Brockton entered into a consent decree with DEP

on water use. Since then, Brockton has appointed an independent water commission and a water commissioner for the city. However, Brockton has been exceeding the agreed water use level for several months. For this reason, DEM and DEP have become actively involved in helping the Town develop a new short to medium term water supply solution until a long-term solution is operational. The town currently needs an additional 500,000 gallons of water per day.

Based on discussions with the town and the environmental agencies, for the short term (years 1-3), the goal is to pursue the purchase of water from a neighboring town. For years 3-5, the possibility of jointly developing a well with a neighboring town is being investigated (this option is currently being negotiated with the Town of Hanson). For the long term, Brockton may use the Bluestone Energy Desalinization Plant (targeted for a 1999 start-up) or a Taunton River diversion. Both long-term potential solutions are undergoing MEPA review.

Agenda Item #3: Commission Vote: Proposals for assistance from the Army Corps of Engineers under Section 22 and FPMS

Gildesgame reviewed proposals from the Army Corps of Engineers under section 22 and FPMS, and staff recommendations ranking priority for funding. The projects were reviewed by WRC members for merit at the last meeting. Commissioner Webber suggested a reprioritization of the lists, to give greater priority to one of the Ipswich projects. After considerable discussion, Zimmerman moved with a second by McGinn that

FPMS RANKINGS BE APPROVED AS SUBMITTED; AND THAT PAS (SECTION 22) PROJECT RANKINGS BE APPROVED IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER: (1) COHASSET, (2) IPSWICH, AND (3) OAK BLUFFS. THE IPSWICH AND OAK BLUFFS RANKINGS ARE CONDITIONED BY REQUIRING MATCHING FUNDS BY THE DECEMBER WRC MEETING AND PROJECT CLARIFICATION.

The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Agenda Item #4: North Sagamore Water District (Bourne) water needs forecast

Drury gave a report on staff recommendations for the water needs forecast for the North Sagamore Water district. Zimmerman moved with a second by Clayton to

ADOPT STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE NORTH SAGAMORE WATER DISTRICT WATER NEEDS FORECAST.

The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Agenda Item #5: Water Needs Forecast for Westborough

Asen reported on the water needs forecast for the Town of Westborough. Several WRC members expressed concern over the quantity of unaccounted for water that the Town is using. Westborough water superintendent John Walden explained that a number of municipal buildings are not metered,

but they are in the process of being metered. The Town is also currently investigated several industrial accounts that operate on combined meters. The water needs forecast will be presented to the WRC for adoption at the November meeting.

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Meeting minutes approved 12/12/96

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